

REPORT OF THE MINERALOGICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SECTION.

The Director of the Mineralogical and Geological Section of the Academy, would respectfully report that meetings of the Section with the Academy have been held regularly every month during the year, besides other meetings of the Section.

One hundred and four specimens of minerals and rocks have been presented during the year by twenty individuals.

The special feature of the year has been a series of excursions by the Section to various points of mineralogical and geological interest in the vicinity of Philadelphia. These have been most successful; the attendance has ranged from twenty to upward of fifty. The interest manifested has been great, and it is hoped that many young persons have been influenced toward the study of minerals and rocks. These excursions have been without expense to the Section, except for stationery, etc.

Some members of the Section, with the Conservator, and with the assent of the Curators, are engaged in rectifying the labels of the specimens in the Academy's collection, quite a number of which were found to have either wrong localities, or localities too indefinite.

Respectfully submitted,

THEO. D. RAND,

Director.

REPORT OF THE ORNITHOLOGICAL SECTION.

During the past year much important work has been accomplished in the re-arrangement of the Ornithological collections, and they are now in an excellent state of preservation.

The renovation of the exhibition collection of birds has been begun in accordance with the plan outlined in last year's report, and with the assistance of the Academy's able taxidermist, Mr. D. N. McCadden, very satisfactory progress has been made.

The collection of North American birds has been entirely remounted on walnut or stained stands, and re-labelled in accordance with the American Ornithologists' Union check-list, while the habitat of each species also appears on the label, which will prove of material aid to those who consult the collection. The whole

number of specimens contained in this collection is over 1,400, representing upward of 600 species and sub-species of North American birds. Many of the specimens needed to render the collection complete are contained in the study series of skins, and examples of these will be mounted during the ensuing year.

The collection of Ostriches and Apteryges has also been thoroughly renovated during the year, and the specimens of Tyrant Flycatchers in the museum, numbering about 450, have been identified and catalogued, representations of all the principal forms having been remounted and the duplicates reduced to skins for the study series.

Any further work in this direction, however, is rendered impossible by the lack of suitable cases of drawers in which the collection of skins may be safely preserved. All the available space is now crowded, and it is absolutely impossible to find accommodation for the additions that are being received. In view of the importance of this need, it is to be hoped that the necessary cases will soon be supplied.

The study collection of skins, now numbering about 6,000 specimens, has at last been catalogued and entirely re-labelled, which adds greatly to its usefulness. Over 3,000 specimens have been catalogued and labelled during the past year. For valuable assistance in this connection the Conservator is indebted to Mr. Samuel Wright.

The collection of birds' eggs has also been temporarily rearranged, and the North American specimens separated and re-labelled. Many valuable ornithological specimens have been received during the year.

Foremost among these is a collection of 46 Arctic birds, secured by the North Greenland Expedition, and a collection of 76 specimens brought back by the Peary Relief Expedition. These together with the Arctic birds secured by the West Greenland Expedition of 1891, form probably the finest collection of Greenland birds in this country.

The Delaware Valley Ornithological Club has continued to add to the beautiful series of nests and eggs of Pennsylvania and New Jersey birds which was presented last year, and the collection has doubled in size, containing at the present time, 80 nests and sets of eggs. Quite a number of groups of birds have been prepared to accompany the nests, which serve to render the collection more attractive and instructive. The Philadelphia Zoological Society has presented numerous valuable birds, which have been mounted

or preserved as skins, and further donations have been received from Dr. S. G. Dixon, I. N. DeHaven, D. N. McCadden and others.

It is gratifying to note the increased interest in Ornithology among the members of the Academy, due to the efforts of the Section and the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, as well as the appreciation by the visiting public of the improvements and additions in the Ornithological departments of the museum.

At the annual meeting of the Section, held December 19th, 1892, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year :

<i>Director</i> ,	Spencer Trotter, M. D.
<i>Vice-Director</i> ,	George Spencer Morris.
<i>Recorder</i> ,	Stewardson Brown,
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i> ,	Charles E. Ridenour.
<i>Treasurer</i> ,	Isaac C. Martindale.
<i>Conservator</i> ,	Witmer Stone.

Respectfully submitted,

WITMER STONE,

Conservator.

REPORT OF THE PROFESSOR OF INVERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY.

The Professor of Invertebrate Paleontology respectfully reports that owing to his participation in the organization and accomplishment of the Peary Relief Expedition—a duty with which he was entrusted by the Council of the Academy and the Academy—he has been able to give but little, in fact, scarcely any, attention to his department during the past year. It is believed, however, that this deficiency in attention has been more than compensated by the valuable collections which have resulted from the Greenland Expedition, and which touch largely the departments of geology and paleontology. Of such collections may be mentioned the series of blocks of Oviſak iron, the fossils of the elevated terraces of Greenland, the fossil fishes from Ameralik Fjord, and above all the extensive series of Cretaceous and Miocene plant remains from Atanekerdluk. The fossil fishes, the first of the class that have been obtained in the region, are but few in number, but advice from one of the Governors of South Greenland, under date of September 17th, indicates that a box-full has been directed to the